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E-filing

CRB

13 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
14 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

15
16 JASON GRAY, on behalf of himself and
others similarly situated,
17

Plaintiff,

v.

20 GREEN DIAMOND RESOURCE
COMPANY; SIMPSON TIMBER
COMPANY; and DOES 1 to 50, Inclusive,

Defendants.

CV 07
No. _____
5589

NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF CIVIL ACTION
FROM ALAMEDA COUNTY SUPERIOR
COURT UNDER 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332, 1441,
1446, 1453 (CLASS ACTION FAIRNESS
ACT)

[Superior Court Case No. RG07348848]

1 TO THE CLERK OF THE COURT AND TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF
2 RECORD:

3 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Defendants Green Diamond Resource Company
4 (“GDRC”) and Simpson Timber Company (“STC”) hereby remove this action from the Alameda
5 County Superior Court to the United States District Court for the Northern District of California.

6 **COMMENCEMENT AND PENDENCY OF ACTION IN STATE COURT**

7 1. Plaintiff Jason Gray (“Plaintiff”) commenced this action by filing a Class Action
8 Complaint (“Complaint”) in the Superior Court of California for Alameda County. A true and
9 correct copy of the Summons and Complaint are attached hereto as Exhibit A. The Superior Court
10 assigned this action Case No. RG07348848. Plaintiff served the Complaint and the Summons on
11 GDRC on October 4, 2007.

12 2. GDRC never employed Plaintiff. Plaintiff’s allegations reveal that he has named
13 and served the wrong entity, and that he in fact means to sue GDRC’s subsidiary corporation,
14 California Redwood Company (“CRC”), which did employ Plaintiff.

15 3. GDRC and STC filed their Answer and Affirmative Defenses in the Superior
16 Court on November 1, 2007. However, GDRC and STC nevertheless assert that service of the
17 Summons and Complaint on GDRC did not effect service as to STC (or, for that matter CRC). A
18 true and correct copy of GDRC’s and STC’s Answer and Affirmative Defenses is attached hereto
19 as Exhibit B. There have been no further proceedings in this action.

20 **VENUE OF REMOVED ACTION**

21 4. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a), 1446(a), and 1453(b), any action over which the
22 district court has original jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d) may be removed to the
23 Federal District Court for the district and division within which such action is pending. The action
24 being removed was filed and is pending in the California Superior Court of the County of
25 Alameda. Accordingly, this Notice of Removal is properly filed in the United States District
26 Court for the Northern District of California.

TIMELINESS OF REMOVAL

5. This Notice of Removal is filed with the Court within thirty days after GDRC was first served with a copy of the initial pleading in this action setting forth the claim for relief upon which such action or proceeding is based, and indicating the grounds for removal. STC has never been served with such pleading. The removal hereof is therefore timely pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b).

BASIS FOR REMOVAL: DIVERSITY OF CITIZENSHIP

(CLASS ACTION FAIRNESS ACT)

6. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2), of the Class Action Fairness Act (“CAFA”), “[t]he district courts shall have original jurisdiction of any civil action in which the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$5,000,000.00, exclusive of interest and costs, and is a class action in which—(A) any member of a class of plaintiffs is a citizen of a State different from any defendant” As set forth in greater detail below, Defendants remove this case pursuant to this provision.

Diversity of Citizenship

7. Plaintiff's Complaint alleges that he and other employees similarly situated were subjected to violations of California law requiring the provision of meal breaks and payment of wages due at termination. (Compl. at 2:4-12; 3:5-13.) He alleges that Defendants' acts have had a direct effect on "those similarly situated within the State of California," (Compl. at 3:2-3), and that "Defendants employ(ed) plaintiff and similarly situated persons within California," (Compl. at 3:19-20). Indeed, Plaintiff seeks to represent a class of over 100 employees, (Compl. at 6:9-11), defined as "[a]ll persons who are employed or have been employed ... as a [sic] hourly employee at [GDRC] and/or [STC] in the State of California since four (4) years prior to the filing of this action," (Compl. at 5:19-24). Therefore, at least one member of the proposed Plaintiff class is a citizen of California.

8. Defendant GDRC is a Washington corporation with its principal place of business in Washington. (Compl. at 3:15-17; Declaration of Valery Williams (“Williams Decl.”) ¶ 3.) Defendant STC is a Washington corporation with its principal place of business in Washington.

(Compl. at 3:17-19.) To the degree that it is relevant to this removal, CRC (GDRC's subsidiary corporation against which Plaintiff transparently means to assert the claims he presently directs at GDRC) is also a Washington corporation with its principal place of business in Washington. (Williams Decl. ¶ 3.) GDRC, STC, and CRC are therefore all citizens of Washington. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1332(c)(1).

9. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a), the residence of fictitious and unknown defendants should be disregarded for purposes of establishing removal jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332. *Fristos v. Reynolds Metals Co.*, 615 F.2d 1209, 1213 (9th Cir. 1980) (unnamed defendants are not required to join in a removal petition). Thus, the existence of Doe Defendants 1 to 50, inclusive, is irrelevant.

10. Because Defendants are incorporated and have their principal places of business outside California, and one or more members of the proposed Plaintiff class is a citizen of California, the minimal diversity requirement of 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2)(A) is satisfied.

11. There is no basis for the Court to refuse to exercise jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(3) or (d)(4). Along with the satisfaction of other applicable requirements, the fact that no Defendant is incorporated or has its principal place of business within California is sufficient to confer jurisdiction. 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(4)(A)(i)(II)(cc) and § 1332(d)(4)(B).

18 Amount in Controversy

19 Meal Break Claims

20. Plaintiff alleges, among other things, that Defendants violated the California Labor Code by not providing Plaintiff and the purported class with timely meal breaks of not less than thirty minutes, (Compl. at 8:21-23), and that, consequently, Defendants violated California Labor Code section 226.7 by not paying to the purported class an extra hour of premium wages for each meal period that Defendants did not provide, (Compl. at 8:13-20; 18:24-27).

25. In this regard, Plaintiff claims that

26. For at least four (4) years prior to the filing of this action and continuing to the present, ("meal break liability period"),
27. defendants have had a consistent policy of requiring hourly
28. employees within the State of California, including plaintiff, to work at least five (5) hours without an uninterrupted meal period

1 and failing to pay such employees one (1) hour of pay at the
 2 employees' regular rate of compensation that the meal period is not
 3 provided or provided after five (5) hours

4 (Compl. at 2:4-12 (emphasis added).)

5 14. Similarly, Plaintiff alleges that

6 Plaintiff and the Class consistently worked over five (5) hour shifts.
 7 Pursuant to the Code, plaintiff and the Class are entitled to a meal
 8 period of not less than thirty (30) minutes prior to exceeding five
 9 (5) hours of employment. [¶] Defendants failed to provide plaintiff
 10 and others with timely meal breaks of not less than thirty (30)
 11 minutes as required by the Labor Code during the relevant class
 12 period.

13 (Compl. at 8:15-23 (emphasis added).)

14 Waiting Time Penalty Claims

15 15. In addition to the meal period claims, Plaintiff also asserts that "Defendants
 16 willfully failed to provided all wages at the termination of [the Class's] employment with
 17 defendants." (Compl. at 3:12-13.) Similarly, Plaintiff alleges that "Defendants' [sic] willfully
 18 failed to pay wages when each employee quit or was discharged." (Compl. at 5:2-3.)

19 16. Further to this claim, Plaintiff asserts that "[n]umerous members of the class
 20 including the plaintiff are no longer employed by defendants. They were either fired or quit
 21 defendants [sic] employ." (Compl. at 9:6-8.) "The defendant's [sic] failure to pay wages, as
 22 alleged above was willful in that defendants and each of them knew wages to be due but failed to
 23 pay them, thus entitling plaintiff and the class to penalties under Labor Code §203 . . ." (Compl.
 24 at 9:9-12.) And

25 Defendants have failed to pay plaintiff and others a sum certain at
 26 the time of termination or within seventy-two (72) hours of their
 27 resignation, and have failed to pay those sums for thirty (30) days
 28 thereafter. Pursuant to the provisions of Labor Code §203, plaintiff
 is entitled to a penalty in the amount of plaintiff's and others daily
 wage multiplied by thirty (30) days.

(Compl. at 9:15-20 (emphasis added).)

Claimed Treatment Common Throughout the Class

17. In order to assert class action jurisdiction, Plaintiff alleges that

1 There are questions of fact and law common to the Class that
 2 predominate over any questions affecting only individual Class
 Members. These common questions of law and fact include ...

3 (1) Whether defendants violated Labor Code §§226.7 and 512,
 4 IWC Wage Order 4-2001, or other applicable IWC Wage Orders by
 5 failing to provide meal periods on days they worked in excess of
 five (5) hours and failing to compensate said employees one (1)
 hours wages in lieu of meal periods;

6 (2) Whether defendants violated §§201-203 of the Labor Code
 7 by failing to pay compensation due and owing at the time that any
 Class member's employment with defendants terminated

8 (Compl. at 6:18-7:1.)

9 18. The Complaint does not make a specific demand for damages. Under the CAFA,
 10 where a complaint "fails to plead a specific amount of damages, the defendant seeking removal
 11 'must prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the amount in controversy requirements
 12 have been met.'" *Lowdermilk v. U.S. Bank Nat'l Assoc.*, 479 F.3d 994, 998 (9th Cir. 2007)
 13 (quoting *Abrego v. The Dow Chem. Co.*, 443 F.3d 676, 685 (9th Cir. 2006)). Based on the
 14 allegations in Plaintiff's complaint set out above, and the calculations following below,
 15 Defendants have clearly established by a preponderance of the evidence that this case involves an
 16 amount in controversy greater than \$5,000,000, as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2) and
 17 1332(d)(6). By the statements contained in this Notice of Removal, Defendants do not concede
 18 that Plaintiff and/or the putative class are entitled to any damages or penalties, including amounts
 19 in excess of \$5,000,000. Nevertheless, the aggregated claims of individual class members
 20 establishes an amount "in controversy" in excess of \$ 5,000,000, exclusive of interests and costs,
 21 for the reasons set forth below.

22 Calculation of Amount in Controversy

23 19. STC has been in the business of milling lumber. In or about January 2, 2007, STC
 24 sold its California lumber manufacturing assets to CRC (then called "California Redwood
 25 Acquisition Company"). (Williams Decl. ¶ 5.) In connection with that transaction, and by
 26 agreement between STC and CRC, STC terminated its California Lumber Division workforce and
 27 CRC offered employment to all of STC's employees from that division. (Williams Decl. ¶ 5.)
 28 Thus, Defendants' calculations will reflect employees of STC and CRC within the class period.

1 The calculations set forth herein, which establish an amount in controversy greater than
2 \$5,000,000, are based solely upon the full-time, hourly employees.

3 20. Plaintiff also alleges that Defendants violated Business and Professions Code
4 section 17200, et seq. That provision would effectively extend the limitations period in which
5 Plaintiff might seek to recover premium pay under Labor Code section 226.7 to a total of four
6 years—that is, from October 1, 2003, to September 30, 2007. *See Cortez v. Purolator Air*
7 *Filtration Prods Co.*, 23 Cal. 4th 163, 168-69, 177-79 (2000); *see also* Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §
8 17208.

9 21. From October 1, 2003, through September 30, 2004, hourly STC employees
10 (including union and nonunion hourly employees) worked for a total of 72,815 shifts of over 5
11 hours in length or over 12 hours in length. (Williams Decl. ¶ 16.) Applying Plaintiff's claim that
12 Defendant consistently denied full or timely lunches to its hourly employees, such that they
13 would each be entitled to one hour of premium pay under Labor Code section 226.7, the annual
14 premium pay entitlement for those hourly employees would be \$1,232,382. (Williams Decl. ¶
15 16.)

16 22. From October 1, 2004, through September 30, 2005, hourly STC employees
17 worked for a total of 79,772 shifts of over 5 hours in length or over 12 hours in length. (Williams
18 Decl. ¶ 17.) Applying Plaintiff's claim that Defendant consistently denied full or timely lunches
19 to its hourly employees, such that they would each be entitled to one hour of premium pay under
20 Labor Code section 226.7, the annual premium pay entitlement for those hourly employees would
21 be \$1,360,917. (Williams Decl. ¶ 17.)

22 23. From October 1, 2005, through September 30, 2006, hourly STC employees
23 worked for a total of 79,676 shifts of over 5 hours in length or over 12 hours in length. (Williams
24 Decl. ¶ 18.) Applying Plaintiff's claim that Defendant consistently denied full or timely lunches
25 to its hourly employees, such that they would each be entitled to one hour of premium pay under
26 Labor Code section 226.7, the annual premium pay entitlement for those hourly employees would
27 be \$1,383,882. (Williams Decl. ¶ 18.)

1 24. From October 1, 2006, through September 30, 2007, hourly STC and CRC
 2 employees worked for a total of 68,286 shifts of over 5 hours in length or over 12 hours in length.
 3 (Williams Decl. ¶ 19.) Applying Plaintiff's claim that Defendant consistently denied full or
 4 timely lunches to its hourly employees, such that they would each be entitled to one hour of
 5 premium pay under Labor Code section 226.7, the annual premium pay entitlement for those
 6 hourly employees would be \$1,206,131. (Williams Decl. ¶ 19.)

7 25. Adding up all of these annual figures, the total premium pay amount that Plaintiff
 8 is claiming on behalf of hourly STC and CRC employees, from October 1, 2003, through
 9 September 30, 2007, is \$5,183,311. (Williams Decl. ¶ 20.)

10 26. Pursuant to California Labor Code section 203, for each failure to pay an
 11 employee all wages owed at the time of departure, the employee is entitled to wages for each day
 12 the wages are withheld after separation, up to 30 days, subject to a three year statute of
 13 limitations. *See Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 338(a); Mamika v. Barca*, 68 Cal. App. 4th 487, 492-94
 14 (1998).

15 27. Plaintiff also alleges that all hourly STC and CRC employees who were employed
 16 from October 1, 2004, through September 30, 2007, but are no longer employed by STC or CRC
 17 are entitled to Labor Code section 203 waiting time penalties in an amount equal to thirty days of
 18 each employee's regularly daily wage; as a result, Plaintiff is claiming an additional \$888,294 in
 19 this action. (Williams Decl. ¶ 21.)

20 28. Thus, the total amount in controversy, \$6,071,605, (Williams Decl. ¶ 22), easily
 21 exceeds the \$5,000,000 threshold required for CAFA jurisdiction.

22 29. Finally, Plaintiffs have also sought attorneys' fees pursuant to the Californian
 23 Labor Code. Where, as here, attorneys' fees are recoverable under the applicable state statute,
 24 reasonable attorneys' fees are properly included in the amount in controversy. *Lowdermilk, supra*,
 25 479 F.3d at 1000; *Frazier v. Pioneer Americas LLC*, 455 F.3d 542, 545 (5th Cir. 2006); *Kroske v.*
 26 *U.S. Bank Corp.*, 432 F.3d 976, 980 (9th Cir. 2005); *Galt G/S v. JSS Scandinavia*, 142 F.3d 1150,
 27 1155-56 (9th Cir. 1998).

30. Based on the above allegations, GDRC has established by a preponderance of the evidence an amount in controversy greater than \$5,000,000.

Size of the Proposed Class

34. Plaintiff alleges that the class he seeks to represent comprises in excess of 100 employees. (Compl. at 6:9-11.) And as Plaintiff alleges, “[a]ccounting for employee turnover during the relevant periods necessarily increases this number substantially.” (Compl. at 6:12-13.) Accordingly, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(5)(B), which provides that the district courts shall not have jurisdiction over class actions in which “the number of members of all proposed plaintiff classes in the aggregate is less than 100,” does not preclude jurisdiction over this action.

35. Accordingly, all of the requirements for federal jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2) are satisfied, and removal of this action is proper under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1441, 1446, and 1453.

STATE COURT PROCESS, PLEADINGS, AND ORDERS

31. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a), attached hereto are copies of all process, pleadings, and orders served on GDRC in this action to date. Attached as Exhibit A hereto is a true and correct copy of Plaintiff's Complaint together with the Summons thereon. Attached as Exhibit B hereto is a true and correct copy GDRC's and STC's Answer and Affirmative Defenses. Attached as Exhibit C hereto are true and correct copies of Civil Case Cover Sheet and Civil Case Cover Sheet Addendum that were served with the Summons and Complaint.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

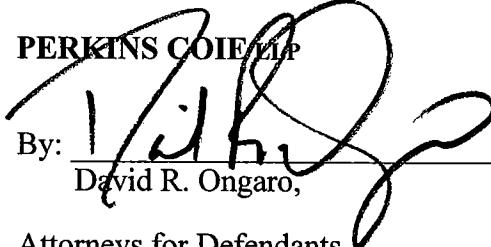
32. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), GDRC and STC will promptly serve on Plaintiff and file with the Superior Court a “Notice of Filing of Notice of Removal to Federal Court.” Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 5(d), GDRC and STC will also file with this Court a “Certificate of Service of Notice of Filing of Notice of Removal to Federal Court.”

WHEREFORE, GDRC and STC respectfully requests that the above referenced state court action be removed to this Court, that this Court take such steps as are necessary to achieve the removal of this matter from the Alameda County Superior Court, and that this Court make

1 such other orders as may be appropriate to effect the preparation and filing of a true record in this
2 cause of all proceedings that may have been had in the state court action.

3
4 DATED: November 2, 2007
5
6

PERKINS COIE LLP

By: 

David R. Ongaro,

7 Attorneys for Defendants
8 Simpson Timber Company and Green
9 Diamond Resource Company

10

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EXHIBIT A

10/04/2007 01:00 0105502500

LAW OFFICES

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SUMMONS
(CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:
(AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

GREEN DIAMOND RESOURCE COMPANY;
SIMPSON TIMBER COMPANY; and
DOES 1 to 50, Inclusive

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:
(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):

JASON GRAY, on behalf of himself and others
similarly situated

10/4/07 2:47PM

SUM-100

FOR COURT USE ONLY
(SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE)

FILED BY FAX
ALAMEDA COUNTY

October 01, 2007

CLERK OF
THE SUPERIOR COURT
By Robbi McIntosh, Deputy

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/seithelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee Waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/seithelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/seithelp/espanol), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por Incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/seithelp/espanol) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales.

The name and address of the court is:

(El nombre y dirección de la corte es):
Superior Court, County of Alameda
1225 Fallon Street
P.O. Box 958
Oakland, CA 94612-4280

Northern Division

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:

(El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
KINGSLEY & KINGSLEY, APC (818) 990-8300 FAX (818) 990-8300
GEORGE R. KINGSLEY, ESQ. SBN-38022
ERIC B. KINGSLEY, ESQ. SBN-185123
DARREN M. COHEN, ESQ. SBN-221938
DATE: October 01, 2007
(Fecha)

R007348848
(Número del Caso):

Robbie McIntosh

16133 VENTURA BL., #1200, ENCINO, CA 91436
Clerk, by _____, Deputy
(Secretario) (Adjunto)

(For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).)

(Para prueba de entrega de esta citación use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)).

NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served

1. as an individual defendant.
2. as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify):
3. on behalf of (specify): Green Diamond Resource Corp.

under: CCP 416.10 (corporation) CCP 416.60 (minor)
 CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation) CCP 416.70 (conservatee)
 CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) CCP 416.80 (authorized person)
 other (specify):

4. by personal delivery on (date): 10/4/07

Form Adopted for Mandatory Use
Judicial Council of California
SUM-100 (Rev. January 1, 2004)

SUMMONS

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Page 1 of 1
Code of Civil Procedure §§ 412.20, 465

10/01/2007 07:00 8189902903

LAW OFFICES

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1 KINGSLEY & KINGSLEY, APC
 2 GEORGE R. KINGSLEY, ESQ. SBN-38022
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 6 16133 VENTURA BL., SUITE 1200
 7 ENCINO, CA 91436
 8 (818) 990-8300, FAX (818) 990-2903
 9 Attorneys for Plaintiffs
 10

FILED BY FAX
 ALAMEDA COUNTY
 October 01, 2007
 CLERK OF
 THE SUPERIOR COURT
 By Robbi McIntosh, Deputy
 CASE NUMBER:
RG07348848

8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 9 FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
 10

11 JASON GRAY, on behalf) CASE NO.:
 12 of himself and others)
 13 similarly situated,) CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR:
 14 Plaintiff,) 1. Failure to Provide
 15 v.) Meal Breaks Under
 16 GREEN DIAMOND RESOURCE COMPANY;) Labor Code §226.7
 17 SIMPSON TIMBER COMPANY; and) 2. Penalties Pursuant to
 18 DOES 1 to 50, Inclusive,) Labor Code §203
 19 Defendants.) 3. Violation of Business &
 20) Professions Code §17200
 21)
 22)
 23)

24 Plaintiff JASON GRAY, on behalf of himself and all others
 25 similarly situated, complain of defendants, and each of them, as
 26 follows:

I

INTRODUCTION

27 1. This is a Class Action, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure
 28 \$382, on behalf of plaintiff and all individuals who hold or held
 the position of hourly employee who are employed by, or formerly
 employed by GREEN DIAMOND RESOURCE COMPANY and/or SIMPSON TIMBER
 COMPANY and any subsidiaries or affiliated companies doing business

1 as "GREEN DIAMOND RESOURCE COMPANY" and/or "SIMPSON TIMBER COMPANY"
2 (hereinafter referred to as "defendants"), with the State of
3 California.

4 2. For at least four (4) years prior to the filing of this
5 action and continuing to the present ("meal break liability
6 period"), defendants have had a consistent policy of requiring
7 hourly employees within the State of California, including
8 plaintiff, to work at least five (5) hours without an uninterrupted
9 meal period and failing to pay such employees one (1) hour of pay
10 at the employees' regular rate of compensation for each workday
11 that the meal period is not provided or provided after five (5)
12 hours, as required by California state wage and hour laws.

13 3. Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and all Class Members, bring
14 this action pursuant to Labor Code §§201, 202, 203, 226.7, 512, and
15 California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 11060 seeking meal
16 breaks, penalties, injunctive and other equitable relief, and
17 reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

18 4. Plaintiff was all times relevant herein, an employee of
19 Defendants and brings this action as a class action on behalf of
20 himself and others similarly situated.

21 5. Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and all Class Members,
22 pursuant to Business & Professions Code §§17200-17208, also seeks
23 injunctive relief, restitution, and disgorgement of all benefits
24 defendants enjoyed from their failure to pay proper compensation.

25 II

26 PARTIES

27 A. Plaintiffs

28 6. Venue as to each defendant is proper in this judicial

10/01/2007 07:00 8189902903

LAW OFFICES

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1 district, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure §395. The unlawful
2 acts alleged herein have a direct effect on plaintiff and those
3 similarly situated within the State of California.

4 7. JASON GRAY is a resident of Washington.

5 8. Plaintiff and the class were regularly required to work in
6 excess of five (5) hours per day without being provided a meal
7 period and not being compensated one (1) hour of pay at the regular
8 rate of compensation for each workday that a meal period was not
9 provided or provided after five (5) hours, all in violation of
10 California labor laws, regulations, and Industrial Welfare
11 Commission Wage Orders.

12 9. Defendants willfully failed to provide all wages at the
13 termination of their employment with defendants.

14 B. Defendants

15 10. Defendant GREEN DIAMOND RESOURCE COMPANY is a Washington
16 corporation, whose corporate mailing address is 1301 Fifth Avenue,
17 Suite 2700, Seattle, WA 98101-2613. Defendant SIMPSON TIMBER
18 COMPANY is a Washington corporation, whose mailing address is 917
19 E. 11th St., Tacoma, WA 98421. Defendants employ(ed) plaintiff and
20 similarly situated persons within California

21 11. The true names and capacities, whether individual,
22 corporate, associate, or otherwise, of defendants sued herein as
23 DOES 1 to 50, inclusive, are currently unknown to plaintiff, who
24 therefore sues defendants by such fictitious names under Code of
25 Civil Procedure §474. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and
26 based thereon alleges; that each of the defendants designated
27 herein as a DOE is legally responsible in some manner for the
28 unlawful acts referred to herein. Plaintiff will seek leave of

10/01/2007 07:00 8189902903

LAW OFFICES

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1 court to amend this Complaint to reflect the true names and
2 capacities of the defendants designated hereinafter as DOES when
3 such identities become known.

4 12. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon
5 alleges, that each defendant acted in all respects pertinent to
6 this action as the agent of the other defendants, carried out a
7 joint scheme, business plan or policy in all respects pertinent
8 hereto, and the acts of each defendant are legally attributable to
9 the other defendants. Furthermore, defendants in all respects
10 acted as the employer and/or joint employer of plaintiff and the
11 Class.

12 III

13 FACTUAL BACKGROUND

14 13. Plaintiff and the Class are, and at all times pertinent
15 hereto, have been non-exempt employees within the meaning of the
16 California Labor Code, and the implementing rules and regulations
17 of the IWC California Wage Orders. Defendants hire employees who
18 work in the position of hourly employee. These employees work on
19 a regular basis without receiving proper meal breaks.

20 14. During the meal period liability period, plaintiff and the
21 members of the proposed class were regularly required to work in
22 excess of five (5) hours per day without being provided a meal
23 period.

24 15. Defendants did not fully compensate the proposed class for
25 defendants' failure to provide meal periods during the meal period
26 liability period.

27 16. Defendants' requirement that plaintiff and the proposed
28 class work through meal periods without paying legal compensation

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LAW OFFICES

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1 for failure to provide meal periods during the liability periods
2 was willful and deliberate. Defendants' willfully failed to pay
3 wages when each employee quit or was discharged

4 17. Defendants have failed to comply with Industrial Welfare
5 Commission ("IWC") Wage Order 6-2001(7) by failing to maintain time
6 records showing when the employee begins and ends each work period,
7 meal periods, and total daily hours worked by itemizing in wage
8 statements all deductions from payment of wages and accurately
9 reporting total hours worked by plaintiff and the members of the
10 proposed class.

11 18. Plaintiff and the class are covered by California Industrial
12 Welfare Commission Occupational Wage Order No. 6-2001, California
13 Industrial Welfare Commission in No. 6 (Title 8 Cal. Code of Reg.
14 SS11060).

15 IV

16 CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

17 19. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of himself and all
18 others similarly situated as a Class Action pursuant to §382 of the
19 Code of Civil Procedure. Plaintiff seeks to represent a class
20 composed of and defined as follows:

21 (a) All persons who are employed or have been
22 employed, and who have worked one or more shifts as
23 a hourly employee at GREEN DIAMOND RESOURCE COMPANY
and/or SIMPSON TIMBER COMPANY in the State of
California since four (4) years prior to the filing
of this action.

24
25 20. Plaintiff reserves the right under Rule 1855(b), California
26 Rules of Court, to amend or modify the class description with
27 greater specificity or further division into subclasses or
28 limitation to particular issues.

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1 21. This action has been brought and may properly be maintained
2 as a class action under the provisions of §382 of the Code of Civil
3 Procedure because there is a well-defined community of interest in
4 the litigation and the proposed Class is easily ascertainable.

5 A. Numerosity

6 22. The potential members of the Class as defined are so
7 numerous that joinder of all the members of the Class is
8 impracticable. While the precise number of Class Members has not
9 been determined at this time, plaintiff is informed and believes
10 that defendants currently employ, and during the relevant time
11 periods employed, over 100 hourly employees.

12 23. Accounting for employee turnover during the relevant periods
13 necessarily increases this number substantially. Plaintiff alleges
14 defendants' employment records would provide information as to the
15 number and location of all Class Members. Joinder of all members
16 of the proposed Class is not practicable.

17 B. Commonality

18 24. There are questions of law and fact common to the Class that
19 predominate over any questions affecting only individual Class
20 Members. These common questions of law and fact include, without
21 limitation:

22 (1) Whether defendants violated Labor Code §§226.7 and 512,
23 IWC Wage Order 4-2001, or other applicable IWC Wage Orders by
24 failing to provide meal periods on days they worked in excess of
25 five (5) hours and failing to compensate said employees one (1)
26 hours wages in lieu of meal periods;

27 (2) Whether defendants violated §§201-203 of the Labor Code
28 by failing to pay compensation due and owing at the time that any

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1 Class member's employment with defendants terminated;

2 (3) Whether defendants violated §17200 et seq. of the
3 Business & Professions Code by engaging in the acts previously
4 alleged; and

5 (4) Whether plaintiff and the members of the class are
6 entitled to equitable relief pursuant to Business & Professions
7 Code §17200, et. seq.

8 C. Typicality

9 25. The claims of the named plaintiff are typical of the claims
10 of the class. Plaintiff and all members of the class sustained
11 injuries and damages arising out of and caused by defendants'
12 common course of conduct in violation of laws, regulations that
13 have the force and effect of law and statutes as alleged herein.

14 D. Adequacy of Representation

15 26. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect
16 the interests of the members of the class. Counsel who represents
17 plaintiff is competent and experienced in litigating large
18 employment class actions.

19 E. Superiority of Class Action

20 27. A class action is superior to other available means for the
21 fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy. Individual
22 joinder of all Class Members is not practicable, and questions of
23 law and fact common to the Class predominate over any questions
24 affecting only individual members of the Class. Each member of the
25 class has been damaged and is entitled to recovery by reason of
26 defendants' illegal policy and/or practice of denying class members
27 meal periods.

28 ///

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1 28. Class action treatment will allow those similarly situated
2 persons to litigate their claims in the manner that is most
3 efficient and economical for the parties and the judicial system.
4 Plaintiffs are unaware of any difficulties that are likely to be
5 encountered in the management of this action that would preclude
6 its maintenance as a class action.

7 V

8 FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

9 FAILURE TO PROVIDE MEAL BREAKS

10 PURSUANT TO LABOR CODE §226.7

11 29. Plaintiff incorporates paragraphs 1 through 28 as though
12 fully set forth herein.

13 30. Labor Code §226.7 requires an employer to pay an additional
14 hour of compensation for each meal period the employer fails to
15 provide. Employees are entitled to a meal period of at least thirty
16 (30) minutes per five (5) hour work period. Plaintiff and the
17 Class consistently worked over five (5) hour shifts. Pursuant to
18 the Code, plaintiff and the Class are entitled to a meal period of
19 not less than thirty (30) minutes prior to exceeding five (5) hours
20 of employment.

21 31. Defendants failed to provide plaintiff and others with
22 timely meal breaks of not less than thirty (30) minutes as required
23 by the Labor Code during the relevant class period.

24 32. Pursuant to Labor Code §226.7, plaintiff is entitled to
25 damages in an amount equal to one (1) hour of wages per missed meal
26 break, as well as attorneys' fees and costs under Labor Code
27 §218.5, in a sum to be proven at trial.

28 ///

1

VI

2

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

3

WAITING TIME PENALTIES UNDER LABOR CODE §203

4

33. Plaintiff incorporates paragraphs 1 through 32 as though fully set forth herein.

6

34. Numerous members of the class including the plaintiff are no longer employed by defendants. They were either fired or quit defendants employ.

9

35. The defendant's failure to pay wages, as alleged above was willful in that defendants and each of them knew wages to be due but failed to pay them, thus entitling plaintiff and the class to penalties under Labor Code §203, which provides that an employee's wages shall continue as a penalty until paid for a period of up to thirty (30) days from the time they were due.

15

36. Defendants have failed to pay plaintiff and others a sum certain at the time of termination or within seventy-two (72) hours of their resignation, and have failed to pay those sums for thirty (30) days thereafter. Pursuant to the provisions of Labor Code §203, plaintiff is entitled to a penalty in the amount of plaintiff's and others daily wage multiplied by thirty (30) days.

21

VII

22

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

23

UNFAIR COMPETITION PURSUANT TO

24

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONS CODE §17200

25

37. Plaintiff incorporates paragraphs 1 through 36 as though fully set forth herein:

27

38. This is a Representative Private Attorney General Action and Class Action for Unfair Business Practices. JASON GRAY on his own

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1 behalf and on behalf of the general public, and on behalf of others
2 similarly situated, bring this claim pursuant to Business &
3 Professions Code §17200, et seq. The conduct of all defendants as
4 alleged in this Complaint has been and continues to be unfair,
5 unlawful, and harmful to plaintiff, the general public, and the
6 class. Plaintiff seeks to enforce important rights affecting the
7 public interest within the meaning of Code of Civil Procedure
8 §1021.5.

9 39. Plaintiff is a "person" within the meaning of Business &
10 Professions Code §17204, and therefore has standing to bring this
11 cause of action for injunctive relief, restitution, and other
12 appropriate equitable relief.

13 40. Business & Profession Code §17200, et seq. prohibits
14 unlawful and unfair business practices.

15 41. Wage and hour laws express fundamental public policies.
16 Providing employees with proper compensation is a fundamental
17 public policy of this State and of the United States. Labor Code
18 §90.5(a) articulates the public policies of this State to enforce
19 vigorously minimum labor standards, to ensure that employees are
20 not required or permitted to work under substandard and unlawful
21 conditions, and to protect law-abiding employers and their
22 employees from competitors who lower their costs by failing to
23 comply with minimum labor standards.

24 42. Defendants have violated statutes and public policies.
25 Through the conduct alleged in this Complaint, defendants, and each
26 of them, have acted contrary to these public policies, have
27 violated specific provisions of the Labor Code, and have engaged in
28 other unlawful and unfair business practices in violation of

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1 Business & Profession Code §17200, et seq., depriving plaintiff,
2 and all persons similarly situated, and all interested persons of
3 rights, benefits, and privileges guarantees to all employees under
4 law.

5 43. Defendants' conduct, as alleged hereinabove, constitutes
6 unfair competition in violation of §17200 et. seq. of the Business
7 & Professions Code.

8 44. Defendants by engaging in the conduct herein alleged, by not
9 providing proper compensation, either knew or in the exercise of
10 reasonable care should have known that the conduct was unlawful.
11 As such it is a violation of §17200 et. seq. of the Business &
12 Professions Code.

13 45. As a proximate result of the above mentioned acts of
14 defendants, plaintiff and others similarly situated have been
15 damaged in a sum as may be proven.

16 46. Unless restrained by this Court, defendants will continue
17 to engage in the unlawful conduct as alleged above. Pursuant to
18 Business & Professions Code this Court should make such orders or
19 judgments, including the appointment of a receiver, as may be
20 necessary to prevent the use or employment, by defendants, their
21 agents or employees, of any unlawful or deceptive practice
22 prohibited by the Business & Professions Code, and/or, including
23 but not limited to, disgorgement of profits which may be necessary
24 to restore plaintiff and the class members to the money defendants
25 have unlawfully failed to pay.

26 ///

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RELIEF REQUESTED

WHEREFORE, plaintiff prays for the following relief:

1. For compensatory damages in the amount of plaintiff's and each class member's hourly wage for each meal period missed or taken late from at least four (4) years prior to the filing of this action to the present as may be proven;
2. For penalties pursuant to Labor Code §203 for all employees who were terminated or resigned equal to their daily wage times thirty (30) days;
3. An award of pre-judgment and post judgment interest;
4. An order enjoining defendant and its agents, servants, and employees, and all persons acting under, in concert with, or for it from providing plaintiffs with proper breaks pursuant to Labor Code §§226.7, 512, and IWC 6-2001;
5. For restitution for unfair competition pursuant to Business & Professions Code §17200, including disgorgement or profits, in an amount as may be proven;
6. An award providing for payment of costs of suit;
7. An award of attorneys' fees; and
8. Such other and further relief as this Court may deem proper and just.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff hereby demands trial of his claims by jury to the extent authorized by law.

Dated: September 26, 2007

KINGSLEY & KINGSLEY, APC

By: Darren M. Cohen
DARREN M. COHEN
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFFS

EXHIBIT B

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10 Facsimile: 415.344.7050

11 Attorneys for Defendants
Simpson Timber Company and Green Diamond
12 Resource Company

13 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
14 COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

15
16 JASON GRAY, on behalf of himself and
others similarly situated,

17 Plaintiff,

18 v.

19 GREEN DIAMOND RESOURCE
20 COMPANY; SIMPSON TIMBER
COMPANY; and DOES 1 to 50, Inclusive,

21 Defendants.

22 No. RG07348848

ANSWER AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES
OF DEFENDANTS GREEN DIAMOND
RESOURCE COMPANY AND SIMPSON
TIMBER COMPANY; DEMAND FOR JURY
TRIAL

23 BY FAX

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1 Defendants, Green Diamond Resource Company ("GDRC") and Simpson Timber
 2 Company ("STC") (together, "Defendants"), for themselves alone and for no other, and despite
 3 Plaintiff's failure to serve STC, hereby answer the unverified Complaint of Plaintiff, as follows:

4 1. Pursuant to Section 431.30(d) of the California Code of Civil Procedure,
 5 Defendants deny, both generally and specifically, each and every allegation contained in the
 6 unverified Complaint, and the whole thereof, and further deny that Plaintiff was damaged in the
 7 manner or sum alleged, or in any other manner or sum whatsoever or at all.

8 **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

9 As and for their affirmative defenses herein, Defendants allege as follows:

10 **FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

11 **(Failure To State A Claim)**

12 2. The Complaint, and each purported cause of action thereof, fails to state facts
 13 sufficient to constitute a cause of action against any of the Defendants.

14 **SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

15 **(Statute Of Limitations)**

16 3. Defendants are informed and believe that Plaintiff's claims, and each of them, are
 17 barred by applicable statutes of limitations contained in California Code of Civil Procedure
 18 sections 335.1, 337, 338(a), 339 and 340(a) and/or (b).

19 **THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

20 **(Failure To Exhaust Administrative And Contractual Remedies)**

21 4. Defendants are informed and believe that the Complaint, and each purported cause
 22 of action thereof, is barred and/or mitigated because Plaintiff failed to exhaust his administrative,
 23 employment and contractual remedies.

24 **FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

25 **(Hours Worked)**

26 5. Defendants are informed and believe that the Complaint, and each cause of action
 27 contained therein, is barred because time that Plaintiff alleges was not compensated did not

1 constitute "hours worked" within the meaning of the California Labor Code, the California Code
2 of Regulations, and California Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders.

3 **FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

4 **(Failure to Observe Company Policies and Directives)**

5 6. To the extent Plaintiff did not properly take his meal periods, or was not properly
6 compensated for working during his meal periods, such was in direct contravention to explicit and
7 repeated directions of his employer that Plaintiff not work during such hours, and notwithstanding
8 explicit company policies and/or practices that employees take all allowable meal periods
9 provided by law.

10 **SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

11 **(No Employment Relationship)**

12 7. The Complaint, and each purported cause of action directed against Defendant
13 GDRC, is barred because during the past four years, Plaintiff has never been an employee of
14 GDRC.

15 **SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

16 **(Unclean Hands)**

17 8. The Complaint, and each purported claim for relief contained therein, is barred by
18 Plaintiff's own unclean hands and inequitable conduct.

19 **EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

20 **(Waiver, Release And Estoppel)**

21 9. Plaintiff's claims, and each of them, are barred by the doctrines of waiver, release
22 and/or estoppel.

23 **NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

24 **(Laches)**

25 10. The Complaint, and each purported claim thereof, is barred by the doctrine of
26 laches.

TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Failure To Mitigate)

11. Defendants are informed and believe that Plaintiff failed to exercise due diligence to mitigate his alleged losses, injuries, or damages and failed to avoid same by timely availing himself of remedies and procedures specified by his employer; accordingly the amount of damages to which Plaintiff may be entitled, if any, should be reduced by the amount of damages that would otherwise have been mitigated.

ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Avoidable Consequences)

12. The claims of Plaintiff and the putative plaintiff class are barred and/or mitigated by the doctrine of avoidable consequences.

TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Constitutional Due Process)

13. The purported class claims of Plaintiff, if tried upon or with so-called representative evidence, would violate the procedural and substantive Due Process clauses of the state and federal Constitutions.

THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Duty to Provide, Not Ensure)

14. The meal break claims of the named Plaintiff and the putative Plaintiff class fail because and to the degree that his employer authorized and allowed such meal breaks, as Labor Code section 226.7 does not require an employer to ensure that such break periods are, in fact, taken; rather, Plaintiff's employer acted in good faith, in accord with its duty, to provide such breaks.

FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Duty to Provide During Shift, Not First Five Hours)

15. The meal break claims of the named Plaintiff and the putative Plaintiff class fail to the degree that they rest on Plaintiff's claim that a meal break was provided only after five hours

of work, in that Labor Code section 226.7 does not require that employee meal break periods be taken within the first five hours of work.

FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Class Treatment Inappropriate)

5 16. The claims alleged are inappropriate for class action treatment since none provide
6 a well defined community of interest among alleged class members, and do not involve a
7 predominance of common factual and/or legal issues. Moreover, the named Plaintiff herein is an
8 inadequate representative for the proposed class, and class action status is not a superior method
9 for the adjudication of the claims raised herein.

SIXTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(No Waiting Time Penalties)

2 17. At all times herein, Plaintiff's employer did not intentionally fail to pay wages that
3 it believed, in good faith, were due and owing to any former employees. Moreover, the defenses
4 raised herein create a situation where said defenses, if successful, would preclude any recovery by
5 Plaintiff and/or the putative class.

SEVENTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(No Unfair Competition)

8 18. Without admitting the allegations of the Complaint, Defendants allege that
9 Plaintiff's claims are barred in that the alleged practices did not occur and are not unfair in any
0 event, the public would not likely be deceived by the alleged practices, Defendants would gain no
1 competitive advantage by such alleged practices, and the benefits of the alleged practices
2 outweigh any harm or other impact they may cause.

EIGHTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(No Unlawful Business Practices)

5 19. Plaintiff's claims are barred, in whole or in part, because Defendants' business
6 practices were not and are not "unlawful."

NINETEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(No Penalties Recoverable Under UCL)

20. Neither Plaintiff nor members of the putative class may recover penalties pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 17200, et seq. (“UCL”), as the UCL does not allow recovery of penalties.

TWENTIETH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Unconstitutionality)

21. The Complaint's individual and/or putative class claims that seek the imposition of penalties that are grossly disproportional to any purported harm are unconstitutional in that such relief violates the Due Process and/or Excessive Fines clauses of both federal and state Constitutions.

TWENTY-FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE (Election of Remedies)

22. Plaintiff elected his remedies by filing and pursuing claims with the Labor Commissioner, and therefore may not pursue such claims in this Court.

TWENTY-SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
(Merger and Bar)

23. The allegations herein of Plaintiff merge with, and are barred by, those claims he filed and pursued with the Labor Commissioner.

WHEREFORE, Defendants pray as follows:

1. That Plaintiff take nothing by his Complaint;
2. That judgment be entered in favor of Defendants;
3. That Defendants recover their costs and expenses incurred herein; and

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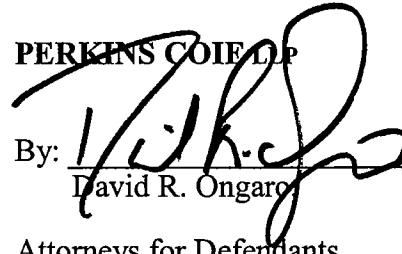
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1 4. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.
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DATED: November 1, 2007

PERKINS COIE LLP

By: 

David R. Ongaro

Attorneys for Defendants
Simpson Timber Company and Green
Diamond Resource Company

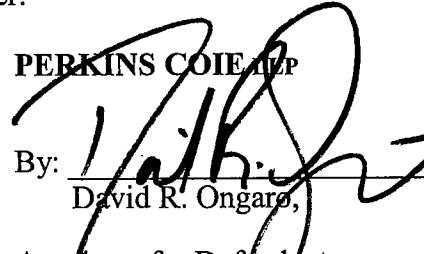
1 **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

2 Defendants Simpson Timber Company and Green Diamond Resource Company hereby
3 demand a trial by jury in the above-entitled matter.

4 DATED: November 1, 2007

5 PERKINS COIE LLP

6 By:

7 
David R. Ongaro,

8 Attorneys for Defendants
9 Simpson Timber Company and Green
10 Diamond Resource Company

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1 **PROOF OF SERVICE BY MAIL**

2 I am a citizen of the United States and employed in O County, California. I am over the
 3 age of eighteen years and not a party to the within-entitled action. My business address is Four
 4 Embarcadero Center, Suite 2400, San Francisco, California 94111-4131. I am readily familiar
 5 with this firm's practice for collection and processing of correspondence for mailing with the
 6 United States Postal Service. On November 1, 2007, I placed with this firm at the above address
 7 for deposit with the United States Postal Service a true and correct copy of the within
 8 document(s):

9 **ANSWER AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES OF
 10 DEFENDANTS GREEN DIAMOND RESOURCE COMPANY
 11 AND SIMPSON TIMBER COMPANY; DEMAND FOR JURY
 12 TRIAL**

13 in a sealed envelope, postage fully paid, addressed as follows:

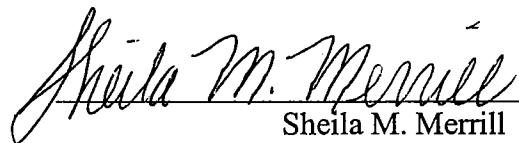
14 George R. Kingsley, Esq.
 15 Eric B. Kingsley, Esq.
 16 Darren M. Cohen, Esq.
 17 Elana R. Levine, Esq.
 18 KINGSLEY & KINGSLEY, APC
 19 16133 Venture Blvd., Suite 1200
 20 Encino, CA 91436
 21 Phone: (818) 990-8300
 22 Fax: (818) 990-2903

13 *Attorneys for Plaintiffs*

14 Following ordinary business practices, the envelope was sealed and placed for collection
 15 and mailing on this date, and would, in the ordinary course of business, be deposited with the
 16 United States Postal Service on this date.

17 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above
 18 is true and correct.

19 Executed on November 1, 2007, at San Francisco, California.

20 
 21 Sheila M. Merrill